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TESTIMONY

Tracy Ryan
1658 Liholiho St #205
Honolulu, HI 96822

RE: Bill 4, CD1 to be heard Wednesday, March 18th at 2 PM

Dear Council members:

I am testifying in opposition to Bill 4, CD1. Passage of this bill violates a basic principal of representative democracy in that it criminalizes the behavior of the majority. Members of this Council should be aware that there are hundreds of thousands of licensed drivers who use cell phones while driving on Oahu. As with the van cams, and such experiments as the prohibition of alcohol, criminalizing the behavior of the majority of citizens will lead to a disrespect for law and a resistance to its enforcement.

This Council has a mandate to ban the use of text messaging and video gaming which require tacking one's eyes off the road. Drivers have demonstrated by their driving habits that they do not expect you to extend that ban to persons holding up a cell phone to the side of their head. If the Council is convinced that this widespread activity is dangerous and needs to be reduced the appropriate method is through public education not police ticketing.

That fact that enforcement of a law may be difficult for the police should never imply the creation of some new law that is not favored by the majority of citizens. This is not a police state. The convenience or inconvenience of law enforcement should not be given a higher priority than the will of the people who elected you to office.

Sincerely:



Tracy Ryan

tracyar@hawaiiantel.net

(808) 534-1846

MISC. COM. 618

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